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TITLE: RUNAWAY MONITORING CIRCUIT FOR PLURAL MICROCOMPUTERS

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ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To secure the safe operations of the microcomputers by monitoring the runaway states of all microcomputers after discriminating either one or some of microcomputers from all of them when an electronic control circuit controls the subject actuators with use of the control signal of either one of those microcomputers.

CONSTITUTION: The microcomputers 12 and 12' are provided with the mutual monitoring circuits 21 and 21' which monitor the abnormal operations of both microcomputers with each other. Thus the circuits 21 and 21' monitor the microcomputers 12 and 12' with each other via a mutual communication circuit 22. When one of both microcomputers has a fault, this fault is detected by the other microcomputer and a fail-safe relay 4 is cut off by the output of an AND logical element 23. When both microcomputers have the temporary and accidental faults, the trigger signal of an OR logical element 25 is not available yet. Therefore a reset signal is outputted from a runaway monitoring circuit 26 so that the microcomputers 12 and 12' are reset and started again.

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